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to the sovereign will of the people. Parliamentary government to that extent we must have.

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**Goodrich, J. K.** *The Coming China.* Pp. xx, 298. Price, \$1.50. Chicago: A. C. McClurg Company, 1911.

The rapidity with which literature is being produced in order to record the changes now taking place in China is probably only exceeded by the changes themselves. Among the informed no one speaks to-day of China as the great static nation. No one charges the Chinese with being non-progressive. Changes have been taking place so rapidly as almost to threaten the solidarity of the Celestial Empire. The task that now confronts the educated group of Chinese is not one of instituting new movements but of giving intelligent direction to the modernism that is sweeping the country like a contagion.

The present volume throws a flood of historic light upon the situation. The author has sought diligently to explain the course of events. Beginning, in the introduction, with a narration of the changes which he has observed since first he went, forty-five years ago, to reside in Swatow, "one of the smallest, most conservative of the treaty-ports," he describes the attitude of the West toward a people whose ideas and institutions were not understood and the consequent creation of the hostile attitude of China toward the "Foreign Devils." The internal history is narrated from the origin of the people in the highlands of Western Asia, through their subjugation of aboriginal populations, the dynastic regimes, the rule of the Mongol and the Manchu to the present possibilities of dynastic change, which, in view of present hostilities, is an exceedingly significant prophecy. "China has now thrown off so much of her ten thousand years' accumulated stagnation and lethargy as to entitle her name to be coupled with the active, progressive, 'hustling' America; the unchangeable has been transformed into the changing; it is no longer military effort to force open doors that the keepers would still bar and bolt—or punitive missions of allies to extort compensation for alleged outrage; but the conquest is now to be one in which the Chinese themselves are to be as active in overthrowing their own obsolescent institutions as are the one time 'outer barbarians.' Furthermore, the radical changes of the past ten years which have almost startled the western world, the author regards as merely suggestions or prophecies of stupendous, almost cataclysmic changes that are soon to follow.

The "Yellow Peril" the author regards merely as a bogey of "Undeveloped China." The coming China with a completely reformed government, system of education, commerce, industry and army will have likewise a transformed national conscience which will make for international peace and stability rather than war. "If China is to be like America in certain ways, how can she avoid approximating us in all? If there are to be railways, inland navigation, post offices, factories, and all the concomitants of advanced life, the blessings must be paid for; the standards of living must be raised, so that the dreaded com-

petition either disappears entirely or fades away into a dim future, when China has raised herself at home quite up to our standard." The entrance of the United States into the Far Eastern Arena is regarded as conducing to the better understanding and mutual advantage of both China and the United States.

The book is a welcome addition to the rapidly growing literature that seeks to explain this most misunderstood nation of the world.

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**Lindsay, Forbes.** *Cuba and her People of To-day.* Pp. xii, 329. Price \$3.00. Boston: L. C. Page & Co., 1911.

This volume, with its soft, cream wove paper and its fifty superior full page sepia illustrations, is a beautiful example of the bookmaker's art. But, better than this, is the study Mr. Lindsay gives us of the natural resources and economic conditions of modern Cuba. The style is simple and direct, yet it carries conviction with it, and a well tempered enthusiasm.

Three or four quotations may be given, which show that Mr. Lindsay has gone to the bottom of his subject. "Here is a country, small in extent, it is true, but as rich proportionally in natural resources as any in the world. It exports over \$100,000,000 worth of the products of the soil annually. Yet less than half of its productive area is turned to account; and of its cultivated tracts only a small proportion is subjected to intensive treatment. Bad government and ill-judged commercial policy have retarded the development of the country which, under favorable conditions, might to-day be producing five times its output, and supporting a population five times as great as that which it has. . . (Cuba has an area of 44,000 square miles, and a population of 2,000,000.)

"The economic condition of Cuba is as unfavorable as possible to the welfare of its population. Foreigners own practically everything in the country. The Island is exploited for the benefit of everyone but the natives. . . .

"The country that produces but one great staple by the agency of slave labor, lays itself under a curse that will be felt long after the conditions have changed. For well nigh a century sugar-cane has been the one chief source of Cuba's wealth, and it has cast a blight upon everything else. The sugar industry has exercised a detrimental influence upon the material welfare, morals, and health, and the independence of the people in general. . . The only outlook for the Cuban is to serve as a hired man."

"A country may be greatly prosperous, and the mass of its people be miserable in the extreme. Mexico is an example in point. Cuba is another. . . ."

"On the *guajiro* (peasant) falls most heavily the burden of supporting the most expensive and extravagant government in the world. This because that government dare not bear too hardly with taxation upon the great corporations and wealthy property owners. . . ." "Large tracts of land that are held by their wealthy owners at high figures, are exempted from taxation entirely."

This is the story of Cuba in a nutshell. One of the healthiest lands on earth, her death rate is next to the lowest in the list of nations; with a rich soil, and a climate inviting the production of every tropical commodity; producing even now, one-fourth of the world's cane sugar, and one-sixth of the value of the